

Information UPDATE



Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction/John T. Benson, State Superintendent/125 S. Webster St./P.O. Box 7841/ Madison, WI 53707-7841

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TO: District Administrators, CESA Administrators, CCDEB Administrators,
Directors of Special Education and Pupil Services, and Other Interested Parties

FROM: Juanita S. Pawlisch, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent
Division for Learning Support: Equity and Advocacy

SUBJECT: Revision of PI 11, Wisconsin Administrative Code

In May of this year State Superintendent John Benson proposed that PI 11, Wisconsin Administrative Code, be revised in order to conform with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act amendments of 1997 (IDEA 1997) and the recently amended subchapter V of Chapter 115, Wisconsin Statutes. A public hearing on this proposal was conducted on June 11. No changes to the proposed rules revision resulted from that hearing. On October 1, 1998, the amendments to PI 11 contained in the proposal became effective. Briefly, the definitions section, the section which pertains to the appointment of hearing officers, and sections addressing certain requirements for physical and occupational therapy were modified. PI 11.01, PI 11.03 to PI 11.06, PI 11.08 to 11.10, PI 11.13, PI 11.15 to PI 11.23, PI 11.24(1) to (6), PI 11.25 to PI 11.34, PI 11.36 to PI 11.37, Appendix B, Appendix H, and Appendix I were repealed in their entirety. A copy of the revised rules is enclosed with this Bulletin. The rules also soon will be available through the "Technical Assistance" subheading on the Special Education Team's webpage.

Rules which were not affected by this revision remain in effect, including those relating to eligibility criteria (11.35), transfer pupils (11.07), and surrogate parents (11.14). Two additional rules revision packages, one proposing to modify eligibility criteria for six areas of impairment (cognitive disability, visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech and language impairment, specific learning disability and emotional behavioral disability), the other proposing to modify the provisions relating to transfer pupils and surrogate parents, will be the subject of hearings in December. The department will notify districts, professional organizations and parent groups of any changes in the rules which might result from these two proposals. It also should be noted that federal regulations implementing the amendments to IDEA 1997 have not yet been published in final form. Consequently, the regulations which predate the IDEA 1997 amendments continue to have the force of law. Again, the department will notify districts when federal regulations become final.

Questions regarding this Information Update Bulletin may be addressed to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Division for Learning Support: Equity and Advocacy, at 125 South Webster Street, P.O. Box 7841, Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7841, or by calling (608) 266-1068.

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